

STATE OF CONNECTICUT



Michael P. Bowler
Statewide Bar Counsel

Frances Mickelson-Dera
Christopher L. Slack
First Assistant Bar Counsel

Tel: (860) 568-5157

Fax: (860) 568-4953

STATEWIDE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

www.jud.ct.gov/sgc/

Second Floor - Suite Two

287 Main Street, East Hartford, Connecticut 06118-1885

05/04/2012

OFFICE OF CHIEF DISCIPLINARY C
100 WASHINGTON STREET
HARTFORD CT 06106

TRACEY ELISE HARDMAN
THE HARDMAN LAW OFFI
100 RIVERVIEW CENTER
SUITE 204
MIDDLETOWN CT 06457

RE: GRIEVANCE COMPLAINT #11-0820
BOWLER vs. HARDMAN

Dear Respondent and Disciplinary Counsel:

Enclosed herewith is the decision of the reviewing committee of the Statewide Grievance Committee concerning the above referenced matter. In accordance with the Practice Book Sections 2-35, 2-36 and 2-38(a), the Respondent may, within thirty (30) days of the date of this notice, submit to the Statewide Grievance Committee a request for review of the decision.

A request for review must be sent to the Statewide Grievance Committee at the address listed above.

Sincerely,

Michael P. Bowler

Encl.

cc: Attorney Gregory A. Benoit
HARDMAN LAW OFFICES LLC
Michael P. Bowler

NOTICE REGARDING DECISION
SANCTIONS OR CONDITIONS

GRIEVANCE COMPLAINT # 11-0820

THE ATTACHED DECISION IS PRESENTLY STAYED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRACTICE BOOK §§2-35 AND 2-38.

SECTION 2-35 STATES, IN PART, AS FOLLOWS:

(e) ... Enforcement of the final decision ... shall be stayed for thirty days from the date of the issuance to the parties of the final decision. In the event the respondent timely submits to the Statewide Grievance Committee a request for review of the final decision of the reviewing committee, such stay shall remain in full force and effect pursuant to Section 2-38(b).

SECTION 2-38 STATES, IN PART, AS FOLLOWS:

(b) ... Enforcement of a decision by a reviewing committee imposing sanctions or conditions against the respondent ... shall be stayed for thirty days from the issuance to the parties of the final decision of the reviewing committee pursuant to Section 2-35(g). If within that period the respondent files with the Statewide Grievance Committee a request for review of the reviewing committee's decision, the stay shall remain in effect for thirty days from the issuance by the Statewide Grievance Committee of its final decision pursuant to Section 2-36. If the respondent timely commences an appeal [of the sanctions or conditions to the Superior Court] pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, such stay shall remain in full force and effect until the conclusion of all proceedings, including all appeals, relating to the decision imposing sanctions or conditions against the respondent. If at the conclusion of all proceedings, the decision imposing sanctions or conditions against the respondent is rescinded, the complaint shall be deemed dismissed as of the date of the decision imposing sanctions or conditions against the respondent.

DECISION DATE: 5/4/12



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
JUDICIAL BRANCH

STATEWIDE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

Michael P. Bowler, *Statewide Bar Counsel*

287 Main Street
Second Floor – Suite Two
East Hartford, CT 06118-1885
(860) 568-5157 Fax (860) 568-4953
Judicial Branch Website: www.jud.ct.gov

Attorney Karyl Carrasquilla
Assistant Disciplinary Counsel
Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel
100 Washington Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Attorney Tracey E. Hardman
The Hardman Law Offices, LLC
100 Riverview Center, Suite 204
Middletown, CT 06457

RE: Grievance Complaint #11-0820, Michael P. Bowler v. Tracey E. Hardman

Dear Assistant Disciplinary Counsel and Respondent:

Pursuant to Practice Book §2-82(b), the undersigned, duly-appointed reviewing committee of the Statewide Grievance Committee, has reviewed the *Proposed Disposition Pursuant to Practice Book §2-82(b)* (hereinafter "*Proposed Disposition*") filed April 4, 2012, and submitted for approval in the above referenced matter. After careful consideration of the *Proposed Disposition*, the *Affidavit* of the Respondent submitted pursuant to Practice Book §2-82(d) and the entire record, and after conducting a hearing pursuant to Practice Book §2-82(b) on April 4, 2012, the undersigned hereby APPROVE the *Proposed Disposition*, a copy of which is attached hereto together with the *Affidavit* of the Respondent. Accordingly, the disposition agreed to by the Assistant Disciplinary Counsel and the Respondent in the above referenced matter and set forth in the *Proposed Disposition* is hereby made an order of this reviewing committee. The Respondent is reprimanded.

So ordered.

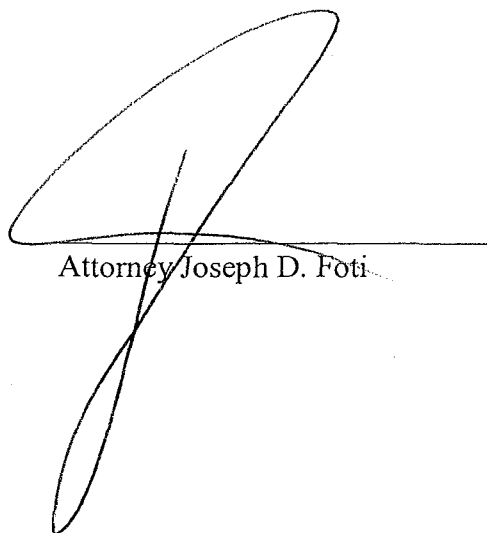
cc: Attorney Michael P. Bowler
Attorney Steven Hryniewicz
Attorney Gregory A. Benoit

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jf

DECISION DATE:

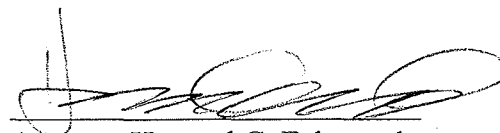
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Grievance Complaint #11-0820
Decision
Page 2



Attorney Joseph D. Foti

Grievance Complaint #11-0820
Decision
Page 3

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Howard C. Eckenrode", written over a horizontal line.

Attorney Howard C. Eckenrode

Grievance Complaint #11-0820
Decision
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Dr. Romeo Vidone

STATEWIDE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

MICHAEL P. BOWLER
Complainant

GRIEVANCE COMPLAINT #
11-0820

v.

TRACEY E. HARDMAN
Respondent

PROPOSED DISPOSITION PURSUANT TO PRACTICE BOOK § 2-82(b)

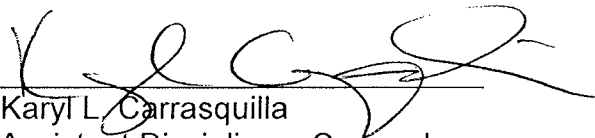
Pursuant to Practice Book § 2-82(b), and Practice Book § 2-82(a)(2), the undersigned Respondent and Disciplinary Counsel stipulate and agree as follows:

1. Tracey E. Hardman (hereinafter Respondent), juris number 417507, was admitted to the bar of the State of Connecticut on April 4, 2000 and has no history of discipline.
2. The Respondent has registered with the Statewide Grievance Committee for 2012 and is currently in good standing.
3. This matter was instituted by grievance complaint dated October 26, 2011.
4. On January 24, 2012, the Middlesex Judicial District Grievance Panel found probable cause that the Respondent violated Rules 1.15(b) and 8.1(2) of the Rules of Professional Conduct and Practice Book Section 2-27(c).
5. The Respondent has tendered an affidavit pursuant to Practice Book § 2-82(d) attached hereto, and admits that she failed to keep and maintain accurate records of her client's fund account and that this conduct violated Rule 1.15(b) of the Rules of Professional Conduct.
6. The Respondent and Disciplinary Counsel agree that the Respondent will be reprimanded pursuant to Practice Book §2-37(a).
7. The Respondent and Disciplinary Counsel agree that Disciplinary Counsel will recommend that the Statewide Grievance Committee impose the sanction set forth in this agreement. If this agreement is rejected by the Statewide Grievance Committee, the Disciplinary Counsel will pursue this matter at a contested hearing.

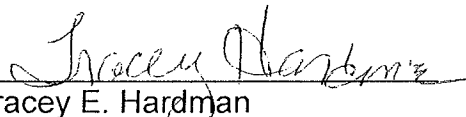
WHEREFORE, this matter is submitted to the Statewide Grievance Committee for its approval in accordance with Practice Book § 2-82(b).

Office of Disciplinary Counsel,

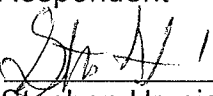
4/14/12
Date

By: 
Karyl L. Carrasquilla
Assistant Disciplinary Counsel

4/14/2012
Date


Tracey E. Hardman
Respondent

4/14/2012
Date


Stephen Hryniewicz
Counsel for Respondent

STATEWIDE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

MICHAEL P. BOWLER
Complainant

GRIEVANCE COMPLAINT #
11-0820

v.

TRACEY E. HARDMAN
Respondent

AFFIDAVIT

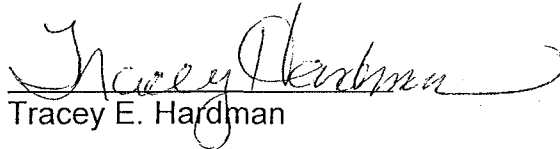
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

ss. [*New Haven*
COUNTY OF [*New Haven*)

I am over the age of 18 and believe in the obligation of an oath. Pursuant to Practice Book § 2-82(d), I make the following affidavit:

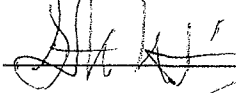
1. The Proposed Disposition attached hereto and made a part hereof is voluntarily submitted.
2. I hereby consent to the form of disposition set out in the foregoing Proposed Disposition.
3. I am aware that I have a right to a full evidentiary hearing on this matter with the assistance of an attorney and I waive that right by entering into this agreement.
4. I have consulted with and been advised by my counsel, Stephen Hryniewicz, regarding this matter and Proposed Disposition.
5. I have been neither subject to coercion nor duress and I am fully aware of the consequences of this Affidavit and Proposed Disposition.
6. I am aware of the current proceeding regarding my alleged violation of Rule 1.15 (b) and 8.1(2) of the Rules of Professional Conduct and Connecticut Practice Book Section 2-27(c).

7. I admit that I failed to keep and maintain accurate records of my client's fund account and that this conduct violated Rule 1.15(b) of the Rules of Professional Conduct.
8. I agree to a reprimand pursuant to Practice Book § 2-37(a).
9. I understand that Disciplinary Counsel will recommend that this matter be resolved by the imposition of the sanction set forth in the Proposed Disposition. If this agreement is rejected by the Statewide Grievance Committee, Disciplinary Counsel will pursue this matter at a contested hearing.


Tracey E. Hardman

Subscribed and sworn to before me

This ^{19th} day of April, 2012



Notary Public/Commissioner of the Superior Court